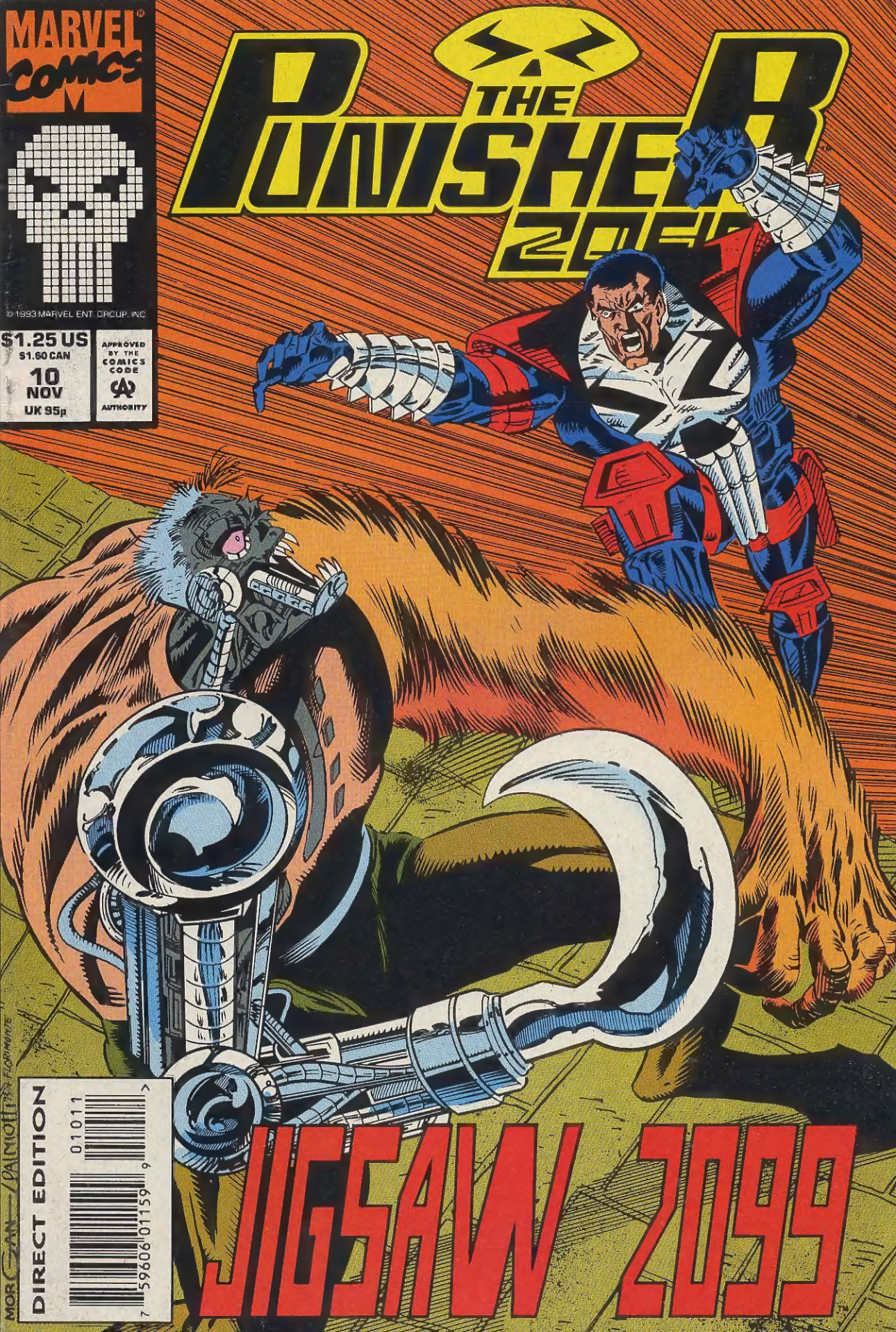
MARVEL COMICS
THE PUNISHER 2099
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APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
DIRECT EDITION
JIGSAW 2099
MORGAN — PALMIOTTI — FLORINNE

HIS FAMILY WAS MURDERED BY A PSYCHOPATH IN AN AGE WHERE JUSTICE CAN BE BOUGHT AND NO ONE BELIEVES IN OLD-FASHIONED *PUNISHMENT* ANYMORE... NO ONE EXCEPT *JAKE GALLOWS*... A WEAPONS SPECIALIST IN THE *PUBLIC EYE* POLICE FORCE BY DAY, AT NIGHT HE IS INCORRUPTIBLE JUSTICE.

STAN LEE PRESENTS :

THE PUNISHER 2099

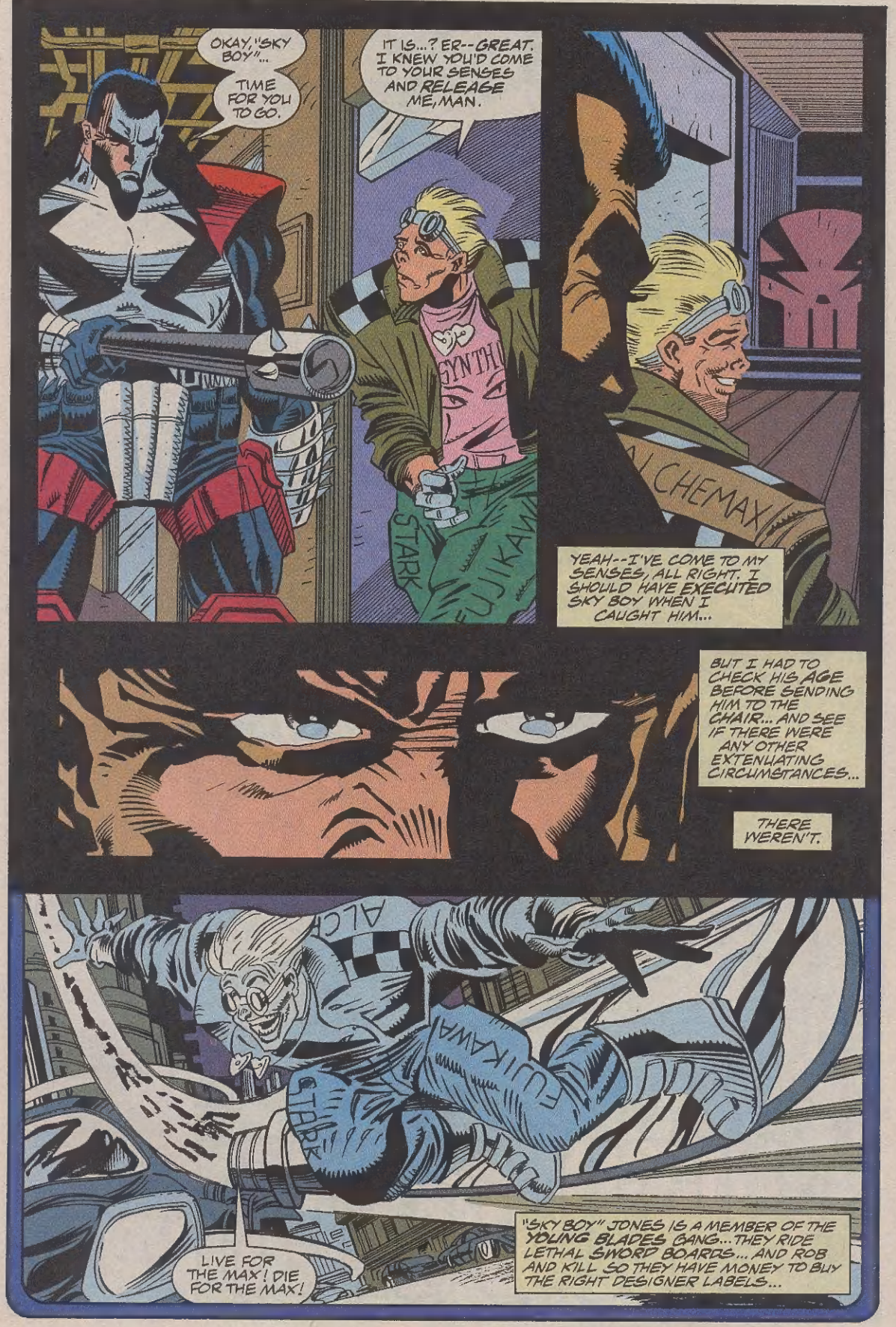
QUITE...BUT IT'S ONLY MY SUBSEQUENT CHANGE OF CAREER TO A VETERINARY SURGEON THAT ENABLED ME TO WORK WITH LIVING TISSUE.
YEAH-- WELL EVERYTHING SEEMS TO WORK.
YOU MUST APPRECIATE, MR. FRACTOR, I WAS TRAINED AS A MORTICIAN...
WELL... I WAS DEAD.
THE POINT I'M TRYING TO MAKE IS--I LACK A CERTAIN FINESSE IN THE COSMETIC DEPARTMENT.
WELL I NEVER WAS A BEAUTY QUEEN.
YOU MUST ALSO APPRECIATE, YOU WERE IN A BAD WAY WHEN I DISCOVERED YOU... AND GETTING HOLD OF NEW LIMBS WAS EXTREMELY DIFFICULT.
I REPLACED DAMAGED FACIAL TISSUE AS BEST I COULD... AND USING MY VETERINARY CONTACTS OBTAINED A GORILLA'S ARM...
...BUT I'M AFRAID THE OTHER ONE IS TOTALLY ROBOTIC. I ALSO INSTALLED A DEGEN'S AIR SAC RESERVOIR ON YOUR BACK AS YOU REQUESTED.

PUNISHER 2099™ Vol. 1, No. 10, November, 1993. (ISSN # 1068-3505) Published by MARVEL COMICS, Terry Stewart, President. Stan Lee, Publisher. Michael Hobson, Group Vice President, Publishing. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, NY 10016. SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, NY AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES. Published monthly. Copyright © 1993 Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc. All rights reserved. Price $1.25 per copy in the U.S. and $1.60 in Canada. Subscription rate for 12 issues: $15.00 U.S.; $27.00 foreign; and Canadian subscribers must add $6.00 for postage and GST. GST #R127032852. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the condition that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. PUNISHER 2099 (including all prominent characters featured in this issue and the distinctive likenesses thereof) is a trademark of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP, INC. POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO PUNISHER 2099, c/o MARVEL COMICS, 11TH FLOOR, 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, NY 10016. PRINTED IN USA.

HaCsA Scan By GOTHMAN

WHAT ABOUT THE CUSTOM HYPER-DRIVER? MY LAST ONE MALFUNCTIONED.
NOT EXACTLY...
WHEN THIS PUNISHER PUNCHED YOUR HYPER-DRIVER INTO YOUR CHEST, IT TORE APART EVERY LIMB AND ORGAN...
ONLY YOUR CYBORG HEART, LUNGS, LIVER AND BRAIN KEPT YOU ALIVE--TECHNICALLY SPEAKING THAT IS.
THAT'S UNLIKELY TO HAPPEN WITH THIS NEW VERSION...
THERE'S A VISIBLE GAUGE WHICH RELEASES THE ENERGY IN STAGES--AS YOU REQUIRE IT. IT'S PROGRAMMED ONLY TO YOUR TOUCH.
1
2
3
Ø
SO QUIT STALLING, DOC... TURN ON THE LIGHTS... LET'S HAVE A LOOK AT YOUR HANDIWORK!
WELL...OKAY... BUT THERE'S SOMETHING YOU NEED TO KNOW FIRST...
NO--THERE'S SOMETHING YOU NEED TO KNOW.
IF I DON'T LIKE WHAT I SEE, I'LL RIP YOUR HEAD OFF!
1
PLEASE... JUST REMEMBER... I-I DID MY BEST!

WHAT?! DOC-- YOU'RE A FREAKIN' GENIUS!
THIS IS BETTER THAN I EVER DREAMED POSSIBLE!
I SHOULD HAVE LOOKED LIKE THIS YEARS AGO!
1
2
3
JIGSAW 2099
PAT MILLS & TONY SKINNER
WRITERS
TOM MORGAN
PENCILER
JIMMY PALMIOTTI
INKER
KEN LOPEZ
LETTERER
LAUGHLIN & ROUSSOS
COLORISTS
JOEY CAVALIERI
SURGEON
TOM DEFALCO
SURGEON GENERAL


OKAY, "SKY BOY"...
TIME FOR YOU TO GO.
IT IS..? ER--GREAT. I KNEW YOU'D COME TO YOUR SENSES AND RELEASE ME, MAN.
YEAH--I'VE COME TO MY SENSES, ALL RIGHT. I SHOULD HAVE EXECUTED SKY BOY WHEN I CAUGHT HIM...
BUT I HAD TO CHECK HIS AGE BEFORE SENDING HIM TO THE CHAIR... AND SEE IF THERE WERE ANY OTHER EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES...
THERE WEREN'T.
LIVE FOR THE MAX! DIE FOR THE MAX!
"SKY BOY" JONES IS A MEMBER OF THE YOUNG BLADES GANG... THEY RIDE LETHAL SWORD BOARDS... AND ROB AND KILL SO THEY HAVE MONEY TO BUY THE RIGHT DESIGNER LABELS...

HE AMBUSHED A CAR...
...AND CUT OUT THE DRIVER'S CREDIT I.D. IMPLANT.
THESE MURDEROUS KIRS COLLECT THEM.
AND BECAUSE IT'S OUTSIDE THE PUBLIC EYE'S JURISDICTION... NO ONE LIFTS A FINGER...
WOHH! MY THIRD IMPLANT! I'M CATCHING UP WITH BLUE MAX!
NO ONE EXCEPT THE PUNISHER!

WHATEVER THE GANG'S REASONS... WHATEVER THEIR EXCUSES... THERE IS ONLY ONE ANSWER..
...PUNISHMENT.
HEY--THIS ISN'T THE WAY I CAME IN...
IS THIS ANOTHER EXIT...?
YEP. THE LAST EXIT.
WHAT THE SHOCK IS THAT?
ALCHEMAX
MOLECULAR DISINTEGRATOR.
GRAHAM "SKY BOY" JONES... YOU HAVE BEEN FOUND GUILTY OF MURDERING THREE CITIZENS...
... AND I HEREBY SENTENCE YOU TO DEATH!
FUJIKAWA
DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY BEFORE SENTENCE IS CARRIED OUT?
SYNTH

BULLPEN BULLETINS

HARRAS-MENT

So — what do you do when two of Marvel's greatest super teams just happen to be celebrating their thirtieth anniversary at the same time?

Well, if you're editor-in-chief **Tom DeFalco,** my beloved boss and mentor, you say "Why not do a crossover? It should be pretty easy — since you write THE AVENGERS and last time I checked, you're still editing THE X-MEN. Hey — it might be fun. You never know."

Fun. Right. But, y'know, I've learned over the years you just don't argue with Tommy D once he has an idea in his head — they kinda get stuck in there.

So, how do you do a story with roughly thirty characters, a couple of villains, and assorted supporting cast without going hopelessly insane?

Well, if you're me you call on two X-MEN writers, **Fabian Nicieza** and **Scott** "Scooter" **Lobdell** and you sit down for a massive story conference and figure out how to make this thing work.

You look for connections between the teams — old friendships, family ties, even an old grudge or two. You look at this large cast of people and y'know, before too long a story is staring you right in the face, a story that clearly shows the natural link between Marvel's band of unhappy mutants and its assemblage of mightiest heroes.

And y'know, it was kinda fun.

Bob — Bob Harras

MIGHTY MARVEL FAN PHONE (516)352-1212

IT'S THE COST OF A REGULAR CALL FROM ANYWHERE IN THE UNITED STATES AND WON'T EXCEED 35 CENTS.

YOUR INSIDE CONNECTION AT MARVEL

Absolutely no work was done in the office this past July 29. That was the day all the Assistant Editors at Marvel took off for an out-of-office retreat, and, as every Marveloid suspects, the assistants are the only ones here who really do any work! So while the editors stayed behind, struggling to keep their heads above water, the assistants spent the day doing just the opposite, as they dove into the chlorinated waters of the Wilson Drive Recreational Facility — or, as it's perhaps better known, **Ralph Macchio**'s house. Ralph was kind enough to donate his facilities for the event, and fortunately, Ralph's mom didn't mind!

Most of the assistants were shuttled to Ralph's suburban New Jersey hacienda in two minivans driven by near-head honcho **Mark Gruenwald** and affable assistant ed **Hector Collazo**. Others followed in a car behind Hector, and had a hard time keeping up with the Hectator. Apparently Hector still hasn't gotten the hang of this whole red light/green light thing yet!

The purpose of the summit was for the assistants to kick back and relax, get to know each other a little better, and to have a chance to hobnob with executive editors Mark Gruenwald, **Carl Potts,** and **Bob Budiansky,** as well as The Chief himself, **Tom DeFalco. Glenn Greenberg** proudly boasted, "I spent more time talking to Tom DeFalco that day than I have in my thirteen months on staff!" Glenn noted that "Tom gave us a lot of insight into why things happen" such as why **Thunderstrike** wields a triangular hammer, while **Thor's** is rectangular.

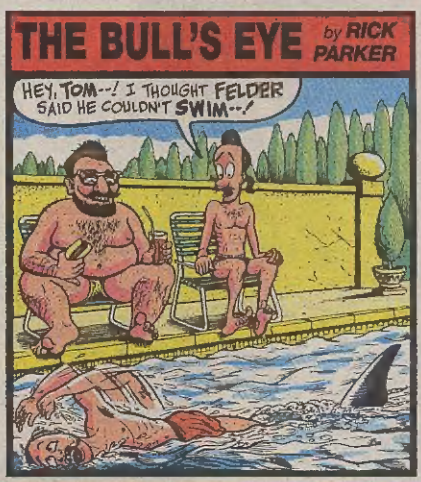
Apparently everyone grew closer to Tom that day. **James** "Professor" **Felder,** commented, "I felt like I was part of a movie called *Inside Tom DeFalco*!" And **Karl Bollers** came away from the event "feeling like Tom and I were long-lost blood brothers!"

While Tom was sharing his wisdom on why there should never be another Assistant Editors Month, exec editor Mark G. was offering up his own insights on newer and more creative ways to jump into the pool. **Mark Bernardo** was the big winner in the long jump contest, with his unique feet first diving style. Mark B. had sustained an injury during the previous contest, the inner tube race, but still came through in the diving competition like the one true Sub-Mariner.

Also earning high marks were the action-packed chicken fights fought in Ralph's pool, though no actual chickens were injured during the festivities. The Bathing Battling Bantams to beat included the teams of **Tim Tuohy/Lynaire Brust**, and **Jaye Gardner/Paula Foye.**

Former assistant editor **Mike Lackey,** who received his promotion to associate ed just prior to the retreat, said his function at the summit was to serve as a liaison between the associate and the assistant editors, but we all know Mike will take any excuse to get out of the office. Mike felt that "Not much was accomplished," at the summit, "but we did have a lot of pizza."

Lia Pelosi said the summit gave her an opportunity to "see who the real wise guys at Marvel are. And once we saw everyone in their bathing suits, we got a chance to *really* see who the wise guys are!" When asked if they would like to do another summit, Lia responded, "Give me a year to recover!" A year to recover, Lia? But the retreat was supposed to be a day to recover from the year-long grind. As The Man once said, "Sheesh!"



HYPELINE: ON SALE THIS WEEK

- ☐ **AVENGERS: TERMINATRIX OBJECTIVE #3 OF 4:** Revelation revealed!
- ☐ **BARBIE FASHION #35:** Barbie models fashions!
- ☐ **DAREDEVIL: MAN WITHOUT FEAR #2 OF 5:** First battle with Elektra!
- ☐ **DEATHLOK #29:** Infinity Crusade Crossover!
- ☐ **DR. STRANGE #59:** Trapped with Kyllian!
- ☐ **FANTASTIC FOUR #382:** Or should that be Fantastic Three?
- ☐ **GHOST RIDER/BLAZE: SPIRITS OF VENGEANCE #16: Zarathos** returns!
- ☐ **HELLSTORM #8:** Hellstorm in *Heaven?!*
- ☐ **HOKUM & HEX #3:** The wrath of Wrath!
- ☐ **THE INFINITY CRUSADE #6 OF 6:** Pray for the Goddess!
- ☐ **IRON MAN #298: Ultimo** returns!
- ☐ **LAWDOG #7:** Flesh-eating *zombies!*
- ☐ **MARVEL COMICS #142:** Wolverine's jungle adventure!
- ☐ **MARVEL SPOTLIGHT: HEAVY HITTERS 2 #1:** Take another swing!
- ☐ **MARVEL SPOTLIGHT OCTOBER 1993:** All free! All great!
- ☐ **MARVEL UNIVERSE MASTER EDITION #36: Ravage, Goddess,** and Zarathos!
- ☐ **METEOR MAN #4 OF 6: Night Thrasher** guest stars!
- ☐ **MOON KNIGHT #56: Seth** the Immortal stops by!
- ☐ **NEW WARRIORS #41: Firelord** and Super-Nova!
- ☐ **PUNISHER 2099 #10:** What doesn't kill you ...
- ☐ **PUNISHER WAR JOURNAL #60:** Frank's *dog* is snatched!
- ☐ **SILVER SURFER #86: Thor** is crazy!
- ☐ **SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #206:** To bury **Tombstone!**
- ☐ **SPIDER-MAN UNLIMITED #3: Dr. Octopus** is armed and dangerous!
- ☐ **STRANGE COMBAT TALES #2 OF 4:** Aliens in the *Civil War!*
- ☐ **WILLIAM SHATNER'S TEKWORLD #15:** Jake treks to London!
- ☐ **THOR #488: Silver Surfer** guest stars!
- ☐ **VENOM: THE MADNESS #1 OF 3:** Eddie falls in *love!*
- ☐ **WAR MAN #1 OF 2:** He's grim, he's gritty — he's **Grift!**
- ☐ **X-FORCE #28:** Someone dies!
- ☐ **X-MEN CLASSIC #89: Rogue** is de-powered!
- ☐ **X-MEN GHOST RIDER GN #1:** Reprinting the Midnight/Mutant melee!

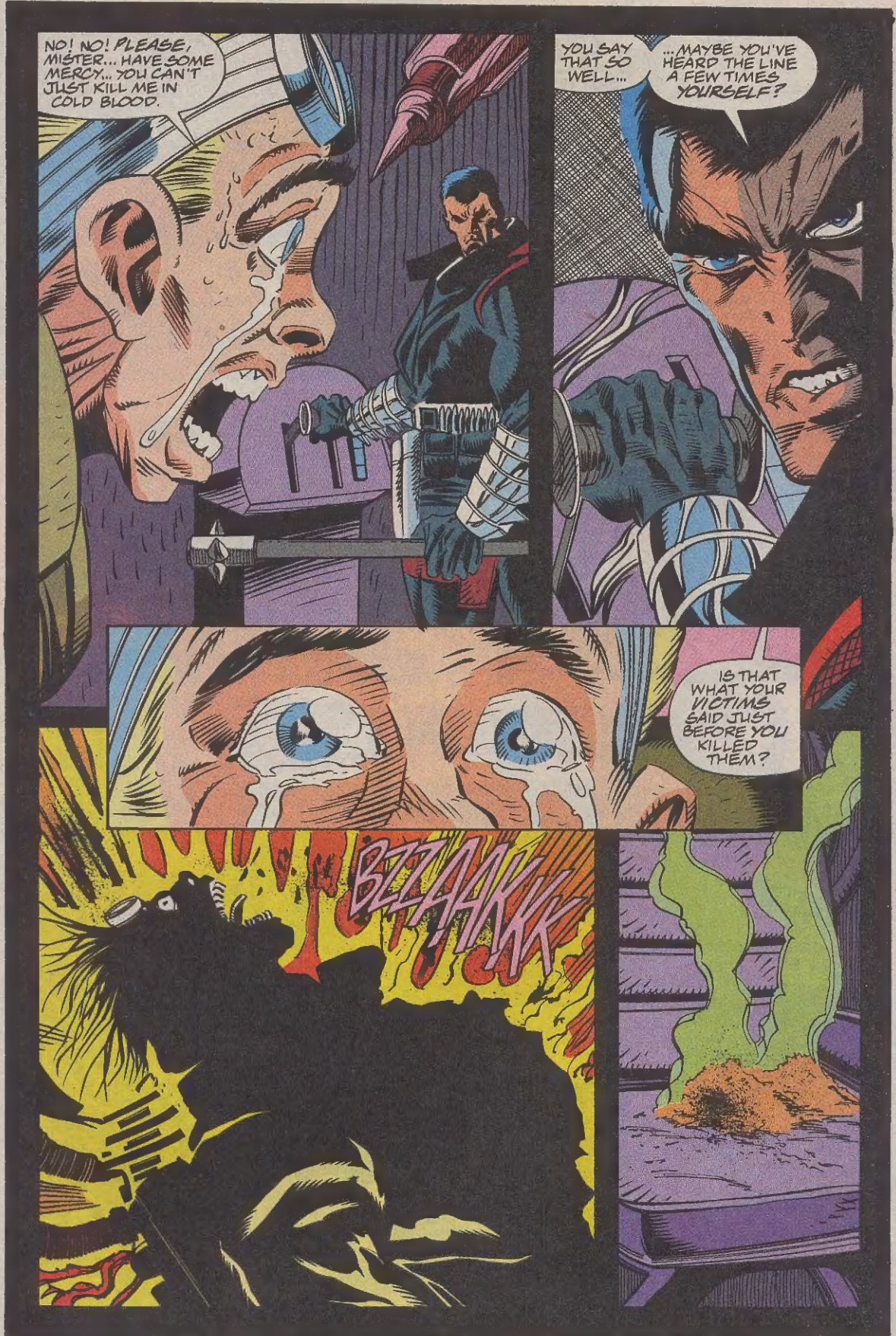
MARVEL U.K. TITLES!

- ☐ **BLACK AXE #1:** Just the axe, ma'am!
- ☐ **DEATH'S HEAD 2 #12:** Charnel knowledge!
- ☐ **DOCTOR WHO: CLASSIC COMICS #11:** Swimming the Tides of Time!
- ☐ **DOCTOR WHO: CLASSIC COMICS HOLIDAY SPECIAL:** 'Nuff said!
- ☐ **GENETIX #2 OF 6:** It's in the genes!
- ☐ **IMMORTALIS #3 OF 4:** Huntin' vampires!
- ☐ **THE INCOMPLETE DEATH'S HEAD #11 OF 12:** Battle with Iron Man 2020!
- ☐ **KILLPOWER: THE EARLY YEARS #3 OF 4:** The Punisher babysits!
- ☐ **PLASMER #1 OF 4:** She'll defy even Captain America!

PROJECT/OBJECT INDUSTRIAL VACUUM CLEANER BARKING PUMPKIN ARF ARF VEGETABLES NO COMMERCIAL POTENTIAL BEAT THE BOOTS CIVILIZATION: PHAZE III CENTERVILLE FZ 25 STUDIO 2 BRAIN

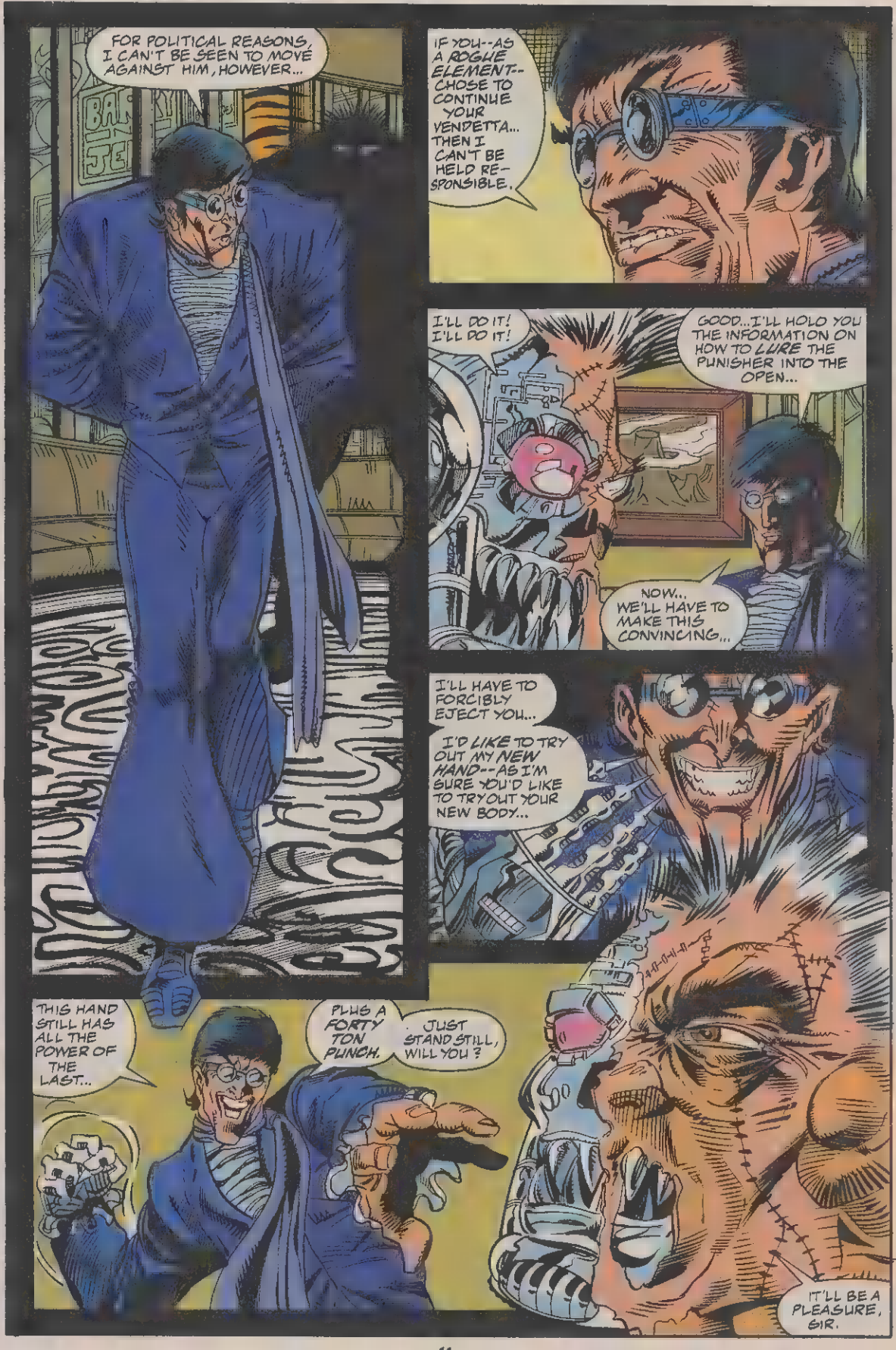
VQ THE BEST SYNCLAVIER PEACHES EN REGALIA EYEBROWS ON IT N-LIGHT CONCEPTUAL CONTINUITY WASHINGTON WIVES CUCAMONGA VOTE ANYWAY YELLOW SHARK HUNGRY FREAKS DAQ

POLICE WIGGLING AIR MOLECULES ORCHESTRAL BULLPEN BORDERLINE BLATHER STUPIDITY THE BIG NOTE POODLES MUSIC IS


NO! NO! PLEASE, MISTER... HAVE SOME MERCY... YOU CAN'T JUST KILL ME IN COLD BLOOD.
YOU SAY THAT SO WELL...
...MAYBE YOU'VE HEARD THE LINE A FEW TIMES YOURSELF?
IS THAT WHAT YOUR VICTIMS SAID JUST BEFORE YOU KILLED THEM?
BZZAAKK

JAKE... JAKE... I SAW THE POWER DRAIN ON THE HOUSE MANAGEMENT GRAPH. I KNEW YOU WERE USING THE ZAPPER AGAIN.
ANOTHER CRIMINAL PUNISHED, MATT...
AND SOONER OR LATER I'LL GET MY HANDS ON THE REST OF THE YOUNG BLADES GANG...
JAKE... IT'S THE SIXTH ONE THIS WEEK. I'M WORRIED ABOUT YOU. WORRIED.
JAKE--I WANT YOU TO SEE A PSYCHIATRIST...
NO! NO PSYCHIATRIST...
LAST ONE I KNEW GOT TURNED TO GLASS.
WELL-- YOUR FAMILY PRIEST THEN.
I'VE GOT NO FAMILY. AND I DON'T NEED A PRIEST.
ALL I NEED IS THE MAN RESPONSIBLE FOR KERRY'S DEATH.

MR. FRACTOR IS STILL WAITING OUTSIDE, FEARMASTER.
TELL HIM I DON'T KNOW ANY "MR. FRACTOR."
I DID, SIR, AND HE...
BOOM
FEARMASTER.. YOU GOT TO TAKE ME BACK...!
WELL, WELL, MY SIMIAN FRIEND HAS RETURNED FROM THE DEAD...LOOKING MORE LIKE A JIGSAW THAN A HUMAN BEING...
LEAVE US, DOREEN.
I'M AFRAID THERE'S NO ROOM FOR YOU IN MY ORGANIZATION. I CAN'T AFFORD TO ASSOCIATE WITH FAILURES.
GIVE ME A SECOND CHANCE.. I'VE NEVER FAILED YOU BEFORE.
WELL...THERE IS ONE WAY TO REDEEM YOURSELF WITH ME...
OFFICIALLY THE PUNISHER IS BEING TAKEN CARE OF BY OTHERS...BUT I'D PREFER TO FINISH WHAT I STARTED..


FOR POLITICAL REASONS, I CAN'T BE SEEN TO MOVE AGAINST HIM, HOWEVER...
IF YOU--AS A ROGUE ELEMENT--CHOSE TO CONTINUE YOUR VENDETTA... THEN I CAN'T BE HELD RESPONSIBLE.
I'LL DO IT! I'LL DO IT!
GOOD...I'LL HOLD YOU THE INFORMATION ON HOW TO LURE THE PUNISHER INTO THE OPEN...
NOW... WE'LL HAVE TO MAKE THIS CONVINCING...
I'LL HAVE TO FORCIBLY EJECT YOU...
I'D LIKE TO TRY OUT MY NEW HAND--AS I'M SURE YOU'D LIKE TO TRY OUT YOUR NEW BODY...
THIS HAND STILL HAS ALL THE POWER OF THE LAST...
PLUS A FORTY TON PUNCH.
JUST STAND STILL, WILL YOU?
IT'LL BE A PLEASURE, SIR.

WOW! THAT FELT GREAT! NICE PUNCH, BOSS!

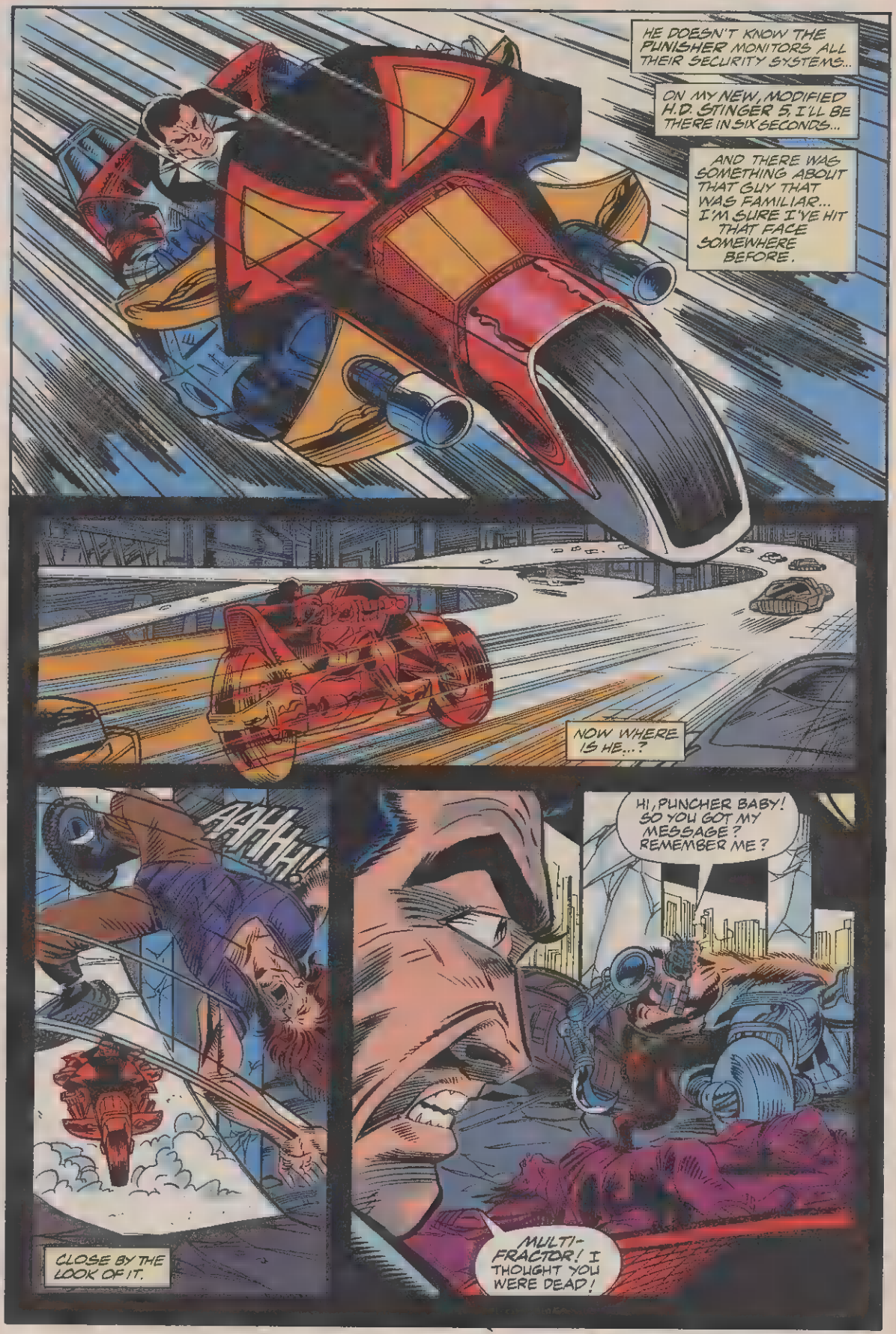
REVEREND McADAM! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE!
ARE YOU GOING TO LET ME IN, JAKE? I'VE BEEN YOUR FAMILY'S COUNSELOR FOR YEARS...
GO AWAY. MY FAMILY'S DEAD!
AND YOU MUST BE FEELING VERY UPSET ABOUT THAT. POWERLESS. IMPOTENT. AS THOUGH YOU CAN'T MAKE A DIFFER-ENCE.
BUT I CAN HELP YOU, JAKE.
WHAT'S THE REV GETTING AT?
COME IN. I'M LISTENING.
Prepare thy self, so swears THOR GOD OF THUNDER
OKAY. WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, REVEREND McADAM?
YOU'RE EXACTLY THE KIND OF MAN I'M LOOKING FOR, JAKE... NO ROOTS, STRONG CHARACTER... WELL BUILT... AND A THORITE BACKGROUND.

OKAY--NOW WE KNOW ALL ABOUT ME...WHAT IS IT YOU'RE SELLING?
I'M NOT SELLING ANYTHING. I'M OFFERING YOU THE CHANCE...
TO GO TO VALHALLA... SKY CITY... LOOK!
The New ASGARDIAN
BRINGING YOU THE GOOD NEWS FROM THOR
WHERE YOU CAN LIVE AND BECOME A GOD!
LOOK, I DON'T WANT TO [redacted] RUDE-- BUT I'LL HAVE TO ASK YOU TO LEAVE...
I DON'T NEED THIS RELIGIOUS GARBAGE RIGHT NOW...
NO, NO, YOU MIS-UNDERSTAND! I MEAN EXACTLY WHAT I SAY...IMAGINE HAVING THE POWERS OF A GOD, JAKE!
GOODBYE!
WELL, LET ME JUST LEAVE YOU A COPY OF "THE HAMMER" AND THIS WEEK'S "NEW ASGARDIAN"...
WEIRD... REV. McADAM'S NEVER ACTED LIKE THAT BEFORE...
...I WONDER IF THERE'S SOMETHING BEHIND WHAT HE'S SAYING...?

FEARMASTER GAVE ME A SUITABLE TARGET--TO LURE THE PUNISHER OUT INTO THE OPEN...
...THESE LOSERS WHO LIVE UNDER GORDIAN KNOT UNDERPASS...
HE SAYS IF I RIP 'EM UP A LITTLE, IT'LL PLUCK THE PUNISHER'S BLEEDING HEARTSTRINGS.
AUTO-COMMUNITY GATHER! DEFEND YOURSELVES! ARMED RAID IMMINENT!
THAT'S WHAT I LIKE... WE ALL KNOW WHAT WE'RE DOING HERE... NO DISCUSSION... YOU'RE MY KIND OF PEOPLE...

I HOPE YOU CRUNCH WELL WHEN I HIT YOU!
SYNTHIA
NOW TELL ME WHICH IS YOUR BEST PROFILE...
'CAUSE YOU'RE ABOUT TO STAR IN A PUBLIC EYE MOVIE!
SMAKK
SMILE FOR THE CAMERAS!

SO MANY CRIMES...SO MANY INNOCENT VICTIMS...SO MANY DESERVING PUNISHMENT...
THERE'S ONLY ONE OF ME... YET I WANT TO BRING THEM ALL DOWN...
EVERY NIGHT I GO OUT AND BRING JUSTICE TO THIS SICK CITY...
WHICH CRIME WILL IT BE TONIGHT...?
AHA! HERE'S ONE... PLAYING TO THE CAMERA...
ARROGANT--HE THINKS IT'S ONLY THE PUBLIC EYE MONITORING IT... AND THEY WON'T CARE ABOUT WRETCHED DECREES...
BUT I CARE.


HE DOESN'T KNOW THE PUNISHER MONITORS ALL THEIR SECURITY SYSTEMS...
ON MY NEW, MODIFIED H.D. STINGER 5, I'LL BE THERE IN SIX SECONDS...
AND THERE WAS SOMETHING ABOUT THAT GUY THAT WAS FAMILIAR... I'M SURE I'VE HIT THAT FACE SOMEWHERE BEFORE.
NOW WHERE IS HE...?
AAHH!!
CLOSE BY THE LOOK OF IT.
HI, PUNCHER BABY! SO YOU GOT MY MESSAGE? REMEMBER ME?
MULTI-FRACTOR! I THOUGHT YOU WERE DEAD!

WELL, I WAS -- BUT NOT AS DEAD AS YOU'RE GONNA BE!
SOMEONE STITCHED HIM TOGETHER... WHAT A GRUESOME JOB... THE GUY LOOKS MORE LIKE A HUMAN JIGSAW.
HE'S JUST THE ONE I NEED TO ANSWER MY QUESTIONS...
FIND OUT WHO THIS FEAR-MASTER IS... WHO I KNOW IS CONNECTED WITH KERRY'S DEATH.
I'LL USE STUN MISSILES... CAN'T AFFORD TO KILL HIM... NEED TO TAKE HIM BACK FOR INTERROGATION...
BUT HE LOOKS LIKE HE CAN TAKE THE PUNISHMENT.

TOO SLOW... IS THAT YOUR BEST SHOT?
EASY AS GETTING THROUGH A DEFENSE WALL IN A GRAV BALL GAME!
NOW TRY A HEAD-ON BODY SLAM! ONE OF MY FAVORITE MOVES! IF YOU'VE GOT WHAT IT TAKES!
I'LL SHOW YOU WHAT I'VE GOT!
NOT GOING TO WAIT FOR THE CRASH... I'M ITCHING TO GET MY FISTS ON YOU...!
FEELING'S MUTUAL! EVEN AS I WAS DYING, I SWORE I'D GET EVEN WITH YOU!

KR-KRASH

EAT FIST, FREAK!

YOU CAN GIVE IT! LET'S SEE IF YOU CAN TAKE IT!

THOOM

ONLY THE KINETIC POWER DRAINS IN MY EXO-SUIT SAVED MY LIFE...
WHAT IS THIS GUY MADE OF...?
HE'S MADE OF HATE...
BUT I DON'T WANT A REPLAY OF LAST TIME...
SOMEHOW I'VE GOT TO TAKE HIM IN... INTERROGATE HIM... AND FRY HIM IN THE CHAIR FOR HIS CRIMES...
...WITHOUT LOSING MY OWN LIFE!
NEXT: THE GATHERING STORM!

TARGET PRACTICE

Joey Cavalieri, Editor · Matthew Morra, Assistant Editor

c/o Marvel Comics · 387 Park Avenue South · New York, New York 10016

All letters for publication must include your name and address, although we will gladly withhold that info upon request.

Out Of My Head

My buddy Marco Lupoi was just here. He's the editor of the 2099 books...in Italy.

He told me that the 2099 books are wildly successful there, far outstripping the competition. In fact, a comic called 2099 #0, a compilation of the first issues of SPIDEY 2099, RAVAGE 2099, DOOM 2099 and this magazine, completely sold out! Marco tells me that it's the first Marvel Comic to sell out that way!

2099...We think locally, but we're a hit globally!

Dear *Target Practice*,

PUNISHER 2099 is the best series ever done by Marvel! The artists and writers do an excellent job.

What happens to Jake and Kerry? Will Jake destroy the Fearmaster or will the Fearmaster kill Kerry?

Will Jake give up being the Punisher of the 21st century?

If Kerry is killed by the Fearmaster, will Jake seek revenge on the Fearmaster or will he give it all up and say, "Kerry would have wanted me to give up being the Punisher"?

What the shock is it with all my questions?

I look forward to reading PUNISHER 2099 #9, and the crossover in December.

John Betros
200 Manchester
Boca Raton, FL 33487

And we've pretty much answered most of your questions this issue and last, John!

Dear *Target Practice*,

It was only a month ago that I got hooked on PUNISHER 2099. I was looking for an X-MEN comic when I saw PUNISHER 2099 #1. I picked it up and decided to buy it, and I'm glad I did!

It was great. The artwork is fantastic, the storylines are awesome and Jake's high-tech toys are mega-cool. So far I have six issues of your book and I am still looking for the two I have missed.

In issue #8, Jake said that he has only one job to finish and that is to check out the link between the Cyber-Nostra and Alchemax. After knowing who the bad guys really are, he and Kerry would leave their jobs in the Public Eye, start a new life and forget about the Punisher. Now my question is, would he really do it? Will Jake really end the punishment business?

PUNISHER 2099 is one of the best and I'll continue reading until Professor X grows hair on his head.

John D. Barbon
Topacio St.
Imus, Cavite
Philippines 4103

There's no Minoxidil in Prof. X's future, so you're stuck with us...and apparently, so's Jake. As you saw, Jake only returned to his "business" with a new resolve!

Dear Joey and Matt,

There is something almost too perfect about PUNISHER 2099. I mean, I hate the original Punisher! I gave up on him after issue #9 of his own series back in 1988. When the 2099 titles were announced, I was extremely eager to explore this new universe. But when I heard the Punisher would be part of the 2099 starting titles, I immediately cast it as a failure. I was wrong.

Jake is different. Jake lives with one foot in danger and one foot in love. There is a tension in him that I haven't seen in comics in a long time.

The main reason I'm writing is, like I said, that it's almost too perfect. I'm afraid you are on the verge of ruining this book! Issue #8 was brilliant. It showed us the fine line between love and hate. Jake knows Duke is a criminal but lets him go anyway because he sees good in his eyes. Jake definitely has a paradoxical quality to his character, and that's good: it makes for interesting reading.

Jake knows the evil of his 2099 world, but also the good that's in Kerry Dowenn. Issue #8 left me with a bad impression that you are going to kill her. Please don't! It would be a tragic mistake that could ruin the book.

When Jake looks into Kerry's eyes, he sees salvation. She is the one person who could prompt him to give up being the Punisher. If they start a new life together you wouldn't have a PUNISHER 2099 but a Jake & Kerry 2099, which is hardly where I think you're taking this title! So how about a compromise? Like maybe a Punisherette?

You have an excellent title. I frequent many comic book stores in this big city of Chicago and the fact that I can talk with fans and retailers about PUNISHER 2099 demonstrates to me great popularity and interest in your title. You've done a great job, so please don't kill Kerry.

Brendan Walsh
1501 W. Hood Ave.
Chicago, IL 60660

Uh-oh.

Dear Target Practice,

This comic is an interesting twist on the Punisher in that he's an entirely different person than Frank Castle. The concept of Frank Castle as the Punisher is almost completely lost. Now that we know he dies, I strongly believe that should be shown.

But there's a problem in this series. There are many similarities between Jake Gallows and Frank Castle, but little relationship. If something isn't done about this, you might think about changing your title to Jake Gallows 2099, or something else that doesn't imply a relationship to the Punisher of the present.

Jake's relationship with Kerry started out really well, but in issue #8, they got kinda cheesy: "You're a natural," "Yep, it's all me." They sounded like a pair of plastic women in a Beverly Hills reconstruction clinic.

Come on, guys, you can do better! This comic roared to a start, but now it seems as if someone's slamming on the brakes. Please take this as constructive criticism, not a complaint. Thank you.

Rich Lashua
7679 Glenbrook Ct.
Pleasonton, CA 94588

GALLOWS 2099, eh? Hmmmm...

Dear Sirs,

I had become a huge fan of PUNISHER 2099 until you gave him a girlfriend. Jake Gallows was twice as intense and focused on the war as Frank Castle. But you decided to give him a girlfriend, so I in return have decided to quit buying PUNISHER 2099. The Punisher is supposed to be an individual, a driven loner who doesn't have any relationships. So, if things don't change, this comic has lost a fan.

Anthony Spencer
66 Lakota Ave.
Akron, OH 44319

You satisfied now, Anthony?

MORE OF MARVEL 2099

SPIDER-MAN 2099 #14 *The mysterious Net Prophet joins Spidey as they go on a tail-kicking tour of Downtown!*

RAVAGE 2099 # 12 *More of "The Nature of the Beast" is revealed...and we haven't forgotten about Tiana, who's heading for a major transformation!*

DOOM 2099 # 11 *Xandra witnesses the rebirth of Thandaza, but is he the rightful ruler of Wakanda, or will Doom take the throne?*

X-MEN 2099 #2 *The Ratpack wants to clean up Vegas, of mutants, that is, in "Synge City Blues!"*

2099 UNLIMITED #2 *If you haven't seen the Hulk 2099 yet, what are you waiting for? Plus, nothing'll prepare you for R-Gang 2099!*

NEXT ISSUE

The Fearmaster, Jigsaw 2099, Balder, Avatarr and the city of Valhalla! No wonder we call it..."The Gathering Storm!"